Floyds Island/Hebard Cabin and Chesser Island Homestead

Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge/Florida

Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge manages 395,080 acres of the 438,000-acre Okefenokee black-peat swamp located on the Georgia-Florida state line. In the early 20th century, the swamp hosted a cypress logging industry; today, many remnants of logging are still visible, such as old railroad lines that bisect the swamp and structures common in that era, including the Hebard Cabin (Figure 8). This structure is listed in the National Register for Historic Preservation.

The Chesser Island Homestead is also deemed eligible for National Register listing. This 19th to early 20th century farmhouse is located deep in the swamp and was home to a family that lived in the swamp for several generations. Its ability to survive the wet swamp conditions serves as a reminder of the swampers who once lived there. These structures and this worldfamous swamp offer many opportunities for education and heritage tourism.



Figure 8. Hebard Cabin on the Chesser Island Homestead